

# THE ALMA RECORD

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF ALMA, MICHIGAN

## THE NEED OF TRUE AMERICANS

There never was a time in the history of our country when the need for sterling manhood, and loyalty was so great as now. Every day we are confronted with great problems, which are the outgrowth of unAmerican agitation and dangerous propaganda spread for the specific purpose of destroying organized government and propagating discent. A small body of unscrupulous agitators are making trouble for America and endangering American ideals.

The hope of labor union leaders that they would be able to enlist the aid of organized farmers was doubtless due to the fact that the agricultural producers have been endeavoring for many years to better their condition through the adoption of the policy of "collective bargaining." The labor union leaders failed, however, to note one vital difference between the policy adopted by themselves and that pursued by organized farmers. The farmers have endeavored to utilize collective bargaining in a thoroughly democratic manner. The labor union leaders, on the other hand, have endeavored to transform collective bargaining into collective dictatorship in a manner that is autocratic.

Fruit producers, grain producers, and cattle producers have endeavored to secure better prices for their products by pooling their output and bargaining with buyers for the sale of the total. They have never, however, forbidden or endeavored to forbid any other farmer from selling his product anywhere, at any time, at any price. The effort of the organized farmers has been entirely legitimate, conducted for a proper end and by proper means.

With collective bargaining on the part of labor unions there is no material fault to be found so long as it is bargaining in fact. The flaw in the labor union procedure has been, however, that the union not only proposes to sell its own labor at prices which it may fix by collective bargaining or dictatorship, but it proposes to deny to any other man the right to sell his labor at any other price. It denies the fundamental principle of individual liberty. It endeavors to enforce the rule that no man shall work unless he first subscribes to the contracts of the labor union and renders himself subject to the mandates of the walking delegate.

This policy the farmer has never adopted and never will adopt. Such a policy is contrary to the principles of the American government, and, though it may succeed temporarily it must fail eventually because antagonistic to the public welfare. It is quite possible that a group of agricultural producers could organize its particular branch of agriculture so extensively and adopt methods so severe as to practically dictate the price of its output. Organized dairymen, for instance, might for a time intimidate non-union dairymen by over-turning their milk wagons, shooting their drivers, poisoning their herds, and bombing their families, but such methods would not long succeed. Nor is there any danger that such methods will be adopted. Agricultural producers are owners of property; they are heads of families; all their interests are aligned with law and order; all their methods therefore will be in accordance with law, and with full recognition of the rights of others.

Because the labor union leaders have adopted methods which can not possibly be approved by organized farmers, the labor union invitation to the farmers to cooperate with them has met a decisive and final rebuff.

This is a time when every American should do his part. We have big problems to solve and serious questions to answer. It is not the part of good citizenship to be a slacker, by wasting valuable time that is needed in the great work of reconstruction, and to be a trouble maker in these serious days is verging very close upon anarchy and treason to the best interest of our country. What we need is a united effort behind a constructive policy, and not a selfish, destructive policy. We share equally in the responsibility of citizenship.

## ANOTHER SURRENDER OF RIGHTS

The American people have a perfect right to question the wisdom of the administration and they are becoming impatient at the continued surrender of the rights of all into the hands of a few. Each surrender of the rights of citizens breeds new troubles and we are never going to get away from this continued trouble, until we have a settled policy that guarantees a stable government and grants no special privileges.

Once more President Wilson has surrendered. When the coal strike was threatened in the latter part of October, the President issued a carefully prepared statement reciting the agreement the coal miners had made fixing terms of employment to remain in force during the continuance of the war but not beyond April 1, 1920, and the resolutions of the mine unions abrogating the agreement. He then declared that "the war itself is still a fact," that troops were still being transported, and that a strike under such circumstances would be the "most far-reaching plan ever presented in this country to limit the facilities of production and distribution of a necessity of life." With a positiveness unqualified, the President asserted, "A strike under these circumstances is not only unjustifiable; it is unlawful."

Further pursuing the same line of thought he called upon the miners to return to work, declaring, "I feel it is my duty in the public interest to declare that any attempt to carry out the purpose of this strike and thus to paralyze the industry of the country is an attempt to bring suffering and distress of all our people must be considered a grave moral and legal wrong against the government and the people of the United States."

The President's Attorney General denounced the strike as unlawful and secured an injunction against it. Mr. Palmer declared that "The coal strike is a plain violation of a Federal statute. \* \* \* All I can say is that the law will be enforced." The miners refused to go back to work and the President negotiated with them until they secured terms satisfactory to them, when their leaders consented to advise the miners to return to the production of coal.

President Wilson can now take his choice of a plain alternative. Either he was incorrect in declaring the strike unlawful, or he has been guilty of compromising with lawlessness. Compromise by the government with a criminal is nothing short of surrender.

On November 6, Mr. Palmer was quoted as saying in a speech at Harrisburg that "No government worthy of the name could permit the strike weapon to be used to enforce the demands of a single class of workers at the expense of all the workers." The strike was used, and it continued to be used until the government made concessions which satisfied the mine workers. To all intents and purposes, the strikers have won. Although it is true they have not attained all their original demands, and probably never expected to attain them, they have obtained a compromise under which they secure a part of their demands and a prospect of obtaining all that they ever hoped to attain.

In the census returns the "lady of the house" comes under the heading of "no occupation." Dear mothers and wives, what of our 365 breakfasts, lunches and dinners each year? What of the dishes and the rooms; what of the—but, there, there. No occupation? Now don't laugh this is a very, solemn matter.

Emma Goldman contends that the State has no right to investigate a citizen's personal opinions. No, Emma, possibly not. Get out and stay out, that's all we ask of you; both you and your opinions are a menace to American government.

## MORGENTHAU PLEADS FOR HELPING HAND IN THE NEAR EAST

Former Ambassador to Turkey Says America Should Not Let Armenian Allies Starve.

By HENRY MORGENTHAU, Former Ambassador to Turkey and Leader in Near East Relief.

If they were good enough to fight and die for us when we needed their help so sorely, they are good enough now to share some meager little crumbs from our plenty when they have nothing, when hundreds of thousands of them are homeless, unaided, foodless and threatened with extermination by their enemies and our own.

Not far from a million Christians have been murdered by their Turkish oppressors. Hungry, terror-stricken, hundreds of thousands of refugees now look to the United States for succor.

Have Trust in America. We cannot refuse. Next to their faith in God is their trust in the disinterested good will and generosity of



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HENRY MORGENTHAU.

the American people. They look to us as the human agency to extricate them from the frightful situation in which they have been left as a consequence of the war.

If we should fail to aid them, starvation and the winter's cold would go far to completing the work done by the unspcakable Turk.

I have not seen with my own eyes the misery in which the Armenians now exist. I have been spared that. But the reports which have been brought in by agents of the Near East Relief and by representatives of the Peace Conference paint a picture of wretchedness inconceivable to those who have not a first hand impression of the savagery of the Mussulman.

Exiled From Homes.

Since the beginning of the war the Turkish Armenians have been large refugees from their homes. A simple agricultural people, they have been exiles from their farms, deprived of all opportunity to support themselves. Year by year their sufferings have increased. Now, a year after fighting has ceased, they are still living the life of nomads, able to continue to keep alive only by virtue of American philanthropy.

These homeless people—"filthy infidels" to the Turk—were good enough to exert their poor might in our behalf while the war was still in the balance. Massacres of a half century had not so broken their spirit that they dared not fight for right and for democracy when justice was the issue. We accepted their aid then. Surely we shall not pass them by without compassion now.

The day has passed when any self-respecting man dares permit absorption in his own personal affairs to exclude consideration of his neighbor's well-being. No honorable man can knowingly allow his neighbor to hunger or to go unclothed. The Christian peoples of the Near East are our neighbors. The money needed to relieve them can be spared without causing any man, woman or child in the United States to suffer.

Must Not Rest on Past.

In other years of our own free will we sent missionaries to Turkey. Our schools and colleges and hospitals have played a wonderful role in humanizing that dark spot in the world. Our ideas, our educational resources, our material equipment, have been leaven in the Near East. Because we have done well in times past we have this great opportunity for the present. The Armenians have been treated as perhaps no people in history have been treated because they are the spiritual brothers of western races.

Will America help them? There can be but one answer. Their necessity is dire, but our power is great. We are wealthy. We are a member of the family of nations. Our brothers call us. Food, clothes, money, are immediately wanted. If ever unmerited suffering called for succor the plight of the Armenians should be heeded now. A few months more and it may be relief will be too late for those myriads whom only we can save. We fail not fail them.

Professional Enemies of Crocodile. There are men whose business it is to catch crocodiles and who earn their living by that means. And whenever a human being has fallen a victim to a professional crocodile catcher is asked to help to destroy the murderer, and a large reward offered him. The majority of natives will not interfere with the reptiles, or take any part in their capture, probably fearing if they do anything of the kind they themselves may some time or other suffer for it by being attacked by a crocodile.

## AVIATORS HAVE SIXTH SENSE

Proof That the Human Body is More Highly Endowed Than Has Hitherto Been Supposed.

The London Lancet asks which of the five senses could have played a predominant share in the nonstop transatlantic flight of Alcock and Brown.

"Sight, even when the moon was visible, was practically nullified by the constant cloud and storms of sleet or hail; hearing almost gradually lost its acuteness in the course of 16 hours of exposure to the tremendous din of engines and propeller—it is recorded that both officers were deaf on dismounting; the vestibular sense seems to have been no trustworthy guide, inasmuch as the pilot admitted involuntary indifference in stunting and seems to have looped the loop without being aware that his vertical direction was changing.

"On the other hand, the aviators' horizontal direction must have been marvellously precise throughout, as, with no landmarks to guide them, their destination was reached without a hitch, when a swerve of a single degree to one side or the other of the direct line would have lost them their objective.

"Presumably the imperfect sense records supplemented each other in nervous systems long trained to rapid and impromptu adjustment."

It seems that the human body is endowed with a sense of stability and balance that depends not upon any one of the "five senses" and cannot be localized entirely in the labyrinth of the ear. Some men possess this sense in greater degree than others.

## NOT IMPRESSED BY SPHINX

Modern Reporter Refuses to See Anything Wonderful in the Lady's Appearance.

Admitting that "a mouth 7 1/2 feet wide is not a rosebud, nor an ear 4 1/2 feet high a seashell," a modern reporter in Egypt is impressed by the fact that the Sphinx does not seem nearly so impressive as he had expected. After all, the creature is only 150 feet long and its face only 14 feet wide! Perhaps the environment made a difference, for the Sphinx, as she today rests in the sands of the desert, has a very different stage setting from that of a few years ago. The black tents of the Bedouin have gone, and their place taken by the white and khaki tents of the British, pitched north and west of the Pyramids. Trolley cars run to within some hundred yards of the Sphinx, and automobiles travel the motoring road to the base of the Great Pyramid; from the apex of the Pyramid of Cheops four long antennae of a British wireless apparatus stretch down to the ground. For a short time during the troubles in Egypt the neighborhood of the Sphinx saw a reversion to lawlessness, and Bedouins only the other day swooped in from the desert and attacked a party of sight-seeing British at the Pyramids. Dwarfed by the Pyramids, the latest visitor who has recorded his impression found the Sphinx "disappointing" and decided that so far from having a "cryptic expression," her stone countenance has no expression whatever.—Christian Science Monitor.

## Red Hair.

A perturbed correspondent of the Indianapolis News raises an interesting question. Do women, he wishes to know, shun red-headed men and, if so, why? His own hair is of the hue sometimes thoughtlessly and inaccurately described as carrot colored. Hence the query is of vital personal importance. He has given the matrimonial question "serious consideration," but each time has been met with discouragement and, he believes, solely to the tinge of his hair. The matter is one calling for the thoughtful attention of the philosopher and the sociologist. If women generally are frowning on the matrimonial offers of red-haired men, the future of the race is threatened. Was it not a red-haired man who fired the first shot in the American war against the Hun? Society cannot afford to lose the perplexing perversity of marrying red-headed women. The red-head will be needed for the next war, or if there is no next war, whenever and wherever trouble is brewing.

## Red Sandstone.

Colorado is full of wonderful red sandstone rocks. They are lined and grooved and stippled over with fine dots; they are worn and hollowed and curved into innumerable grotesque shapes; from the tiny stone which you can hold in your hand to the sharp colossal wall, hundreds of feet high, which no man can climb, there is not an inch which does not look as if for millions of years it had been worked by tools. Yet no hand, no tool, has been there. Grains of sand have done it—all grains of sand blowing and eddying in wind currents.—Helen Hunt Jackson.

## The Brighter Side.

"Well, did the captain of industry see you?"  
"No," replied Mr. Galspore.  
"You bear up well under the disappointment."  
"Yes, you should have seen his private secretary. It was a pleasure to be turned down by such a rare combination of feminine tact and loveliness."  
—Birmingham Age-Herald.

## Dream Teams.

Far better to dream of crying than of laughter, for tears in a dream mean joy and merriment in real life; while laughter, when it is dream laughter, preges difficult circumstances.

## What Are These Maples?

What are these maples and beeches and birches that odds and idyls and madrigals; what are these pines and firs and spruces but holy hymns?—Holmes.

## WOMEN EXCEED MEN IN JAPANESE FACTORIES

850,000 Japanese Women Work at Average Daily Wage of Ten to Twenty Cents for a Twelve Hour Day.

There are more women in industry in Japan than there are men, according to a statement recently made by the War Work Council of the Young Women's Christian Association.

The world war has brought 850,000 women and girls into the daily grind of industry according to this statement; 30,000 of them little girls under fifteen years of age who work twelve hours at a wage of ten to twenty cents a day, that the world may have still dresses and munitions.

In Tokyo alone, a city of two and one-half million people, there are 100,000 women employed in sixty-two industries and businesses varying from work as telephone operators, clerks stenographers and bookkeepers to work in silk and other sorts of factories and domestic work.

Each year thousands of these women go back to their homes in the country, broken in health and victims of tuberculosis because of the poor conditions under which they work and live. They are housed in dormitories in the factory compound. These dormitories are frequently unsanitary. The girls work long hours, have no recreation and on finishing their long day go immediately to bed, oftentimes a bed which a girl who works at night has been sleeping in all day.

As part of its world service for women, the Young Women's Christian Association plans to build dormitories in manufacturing towns where girls may live cheaply under healthful physical and social conditions, to send out secretaries who can introduce recreation into the factory compound and direct games and social life.

This is done with the co-operation of the factories' managers and proprietors. One of the most influential of these is Mrs. Suzuki, the most prominent woman manufacturer in Japan, who is owner and manager of a firm which exported \$11,000,000 worth of hemp oil to America last year.

Recently Mrs. Suzuki decided to employ one thousand women in her offices. She could not find enough well trained ones so she established a permanent school where Japanese girls may be trained to enter the business world. The greatest danger ahead of Japan, she says, is in its growing materialism, and Japan's greatest need, the development of her women.

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+ NATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS  
+ DEPEND UPON WOMANKIND  
+  
+ Japanese Diplomat Says Men  
+ Alone Cannot Create Interna  
+ tional Friendliness.  
+  
+ International friendship, be  
+ tween nations depends largely  
+ upon the friendly feeling between  
+ the women of those nations, ac  
+ cording to representatives of the  
+ Japanese embassy in Washington.  
+ Their theory is that there can  
+ be no firm friendship between  
+ two nations unless the women of  
+ those two countries know and  
+ like one another, as co-operation  
+ between nations, as in the state  
+ and in the family, is based on co  
+ operation between men and wo  
+ men.  
+  
+ Therefore, if Japan and Ameri  
+ ca are to have a real, lasting  
+ friendship, to really know and  
+ understand one another, the wo  
+ men of the two nations must  
+ learn to play together, to study  
+ together and to think together.  
+ The Y. W. C. A. is one of the  
+ best mediums for bringing about  
+ this friendship between the two  
+ nations, according to diplomatic  
+ representatives of Japan, as that  
+ organization is teaching Japanese  
+ women recreation, showing them  
+ how to enjoy out-of-door life and  
+ sports. It is particularly neces  
+ sary that Japanese women learn  
+ to enjoy and appreciate recrea  
+ tion, they say, since the great  
+ influx of women into industry  
+ and business, as Japanese wo  
+ men, formerly so conservative,  
+ are going into business and doing  
+ many things which they had  
+ never thought of doing before the  
+ war.  
+ The Y. W. C. A. has been as  
+ sured the fullest possible co-op  
+ eration of the Japanese embas  
+ y and the Japanese people in mak  
+ ing its "World Service program"  
+ for three million dollars to be  
+ used for women and girls in the  
+ United States, India, China, Ja  
+ pan, South America, Egypt, Si  
+ beria, the Near East and Mexico  
+ a success.  
+ \*\*\*\*\*

## Y. W. C. A. TRAINS WOMEN

Young women students from forty-four states and nine countries—China, the Philippine Islands, France, Bulgaria, Holland, Russia, Armenia, Canada and Mexico—are registered in the National Training School of the Young Women's Christian Association in New York.

They are studying methods of Y. W. C. A. work with a view to taking it to their own countries or in other of the countries where the Y. W. C. A. is carrying on, opening and expanding its work.

## Opening of Panama Canal.

In 1914, on August 15, the Panama canal was formally opened to the world. The canal had been nine years in building. The total cost of construction, exclusive of fortifications, civil government and payments to the republic of Panama, was approximately \$337,000,000. The first passage after the formal opening of the canal was made by the steamship Ancon, Colonel Goethals, governor of the canal zone, was on board. The passage from Cristobal to Balboa was accomplished in nine hours.

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